



## **DRAFT AAHC MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Thursday, January 21, 2016**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Dewayne Barton, Marvin Chambers, Isaac Coleman, Kelly Goins, Sasha Mitchell

**City Council Liaison in Attendance:** Mayor Esther Manheimer

**Guests in Attendance:** Dave Nutter

**City Staff in Attendance:** Alex Carmichael, Jaime Matthews, Roderick Simmons

**County Staff in Attendance:** Karla Furnari

The meeting was called to order at 11:37 AM.

### **1. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES.**

Isaac Coleman moved to approve the minutes, Marvin Chambers seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

### **2. WELCOME TO OUR NEW CITY LIAISON, MAYOR ESTHER MANHEIMER**

The Commission extended its welcome to Mayor Esther Manheimer.

### **3. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **a. Review of Committee Assignments and Next Steps**

##### **i. Public Relations Committee –**

The Public Relations Committee consists of Sasha Mitchell, Isaac Coleman, and DeWayne Barton. The Public Relations Committee will combine with the Community Outreach Committee, and will cover a newsletter, a needs assessment, a comprehensive outreach plan, and managing a yearly events calendar. The City's Director of Community and Public Engagement, Dawa Hitch, will be invited to speak to the Commission about engagement resources that are available through the City. Sasha Mitchell will contact Southside and East End community groups to collect activities for the newsletter and calendar. DeWayne Barton will contact Shiloh and Hillcrest.

##### **ii. Historic Marker Committee –**

The Historic Marker Committee consists of Marvin Chambers, Sasha Mitchell, and Phyllis Utley.

##### **iii. Education Committee –**

The Education Committee consists of Isaac Coleman, Phyllis Utley, and Kelley Goins. Chairwoman Mitchell asked the Education Committee to come to the February meeting with a list of education projects.

**b. Other**

The Commission discussed its alignment with City and County departments and its potential for raising funds. The Commission is not specifically aligned with a particular department or master plan, but departments are available to assist with projects. Mayor Manheimer suggested looking into partnerships with outside groups such as the Asheville Buncombe Community Relations Council or the Neighborhood Advisory Committee. The Commission also discussed the process of formulating its vision and goals. Those goals will determine what types of partnerships it should seek.

DeWayne Barton stated the need for a strategy to engage various neighborhoods in order to partner with them and build momentum. The Commission discussed developing its own properties first, or partnering with outside groups first in order to support their projects and priorities and gain momentum. DeWayne Barton will contact Mrs. Baynes from the Shiloh Neighborhood Association and ask her to come and talk with the Commission about its Legacy Trail project.

The Commission discussed the possibility of forming a budget committee, but decided to have each committee propose a budget for individual projects instead. Those proposals would then go to the full Commission.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Suggestions for Recruiting a New Member**

The Commission discussed outreach for recruiting potential new members. The commission members will reach out to their networks. The County will look into posting the recruitment online for the county-appointed seat. The City will look into the possibility of linking to the county site on the city page.

**b. Review Priorities for Upcoming Year**

DeWayne Barton moved that the Commission adopt the monument as its top priority with a community engagement process as a key component. Isaac Coleman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dave Nutter is a member of the Eagle Market Development Corporation and the Historic Resources Commission. He expressed interest in the work of the African American Heritage Commission. Mayor Manheimer suggested that the African American Heritage Commission work with the Historic Resources Commission.

**4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. None.**

**5. ADJOURN.** The meeting was adjourned without objection at 12:51 PM.